

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 053434
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 H-01 SIG-03
CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 AID-05 IO-13 HA-05 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15
INR-10 PA-01 /103 R

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APPROVED BY AF/E:RPOST
H:NLEDSKY

-----084811 020521Z /15

O R 020242Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY DOHA
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 053434

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SO, US (MOYNIHAN, DANIEL)

SUBJECT: SOMALI EMBASSY PROTESTS STATEMENT OF SENATOR
MOYNIHAN

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1. SOMALI CHARGE CALLED AT DEPARTMENT MAR. ITO DISCUSS
UPI REPORT OF STATEMENT BY SENATOR DANIEL MOYNIHAN ON
SENATE FLOOR THAT SOMALIA WAS A ONE-TIME "WHORE OF
RUSSIA" THAT NOW "BEGS AND BLEATS" FOR AID FROM THE
UNITED STATES. MOYNIHAN MADE HIS COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO
SPEECH BY SENATOR EAGLETON WHO URGED PRESIDENT CARTER TO
AUTHORIZE TRANSFER OF US ARMS TO SOMALIA. "MOYNIHAN

REMINDED EAGLETON THAT THREE YEARS AGO IT WAS SOMALIA WHICH INTRODUCED THE 'INFAMOUS' UN RESOLUTION LINKING ZIONISM WITH RACISM. MOYNIHAN SAID HE WARNED SOMALIA AT THAT TIME THAT 'SMALL NATIONS...WHO TAKE PART IN DEBAUCHING THE LANGUAGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS' WILL FIND THEIR WORDS RETURNING TO HAUNT THEM. THAT TIME HAS COME, MOYNIHAN SAID. 'THE (ANTI-ZIONISM) RESOLUTION WAS INTRODUCED.' MOYNIHAN SAID, 'BY SOMALIA, AN ARROGANT, RUTHLESS SOMALIA PROUD TO BE THE WHORE OF RUSSIA AND PROUD OF ITS ASSOCIATION WITH CUBA. NOW THIS NATIONS BEGS AND BLEATS AND PLEADS FOR OUR HELP.'

2. CHARGE POINTED OUT THAT THIS UNDIPLOMATIC LANGUAGE WOULD BE VERY BADLY VIEWED IN MOGADISCIO, AND URGED DEPT. TO ISSUE STATEMENT DISASSOCIATING ITSELF FROM MOYNIHAN STATEMENT. HE POINTED OUT THAT GSDR EMBASSY HAD ACTED SWIFTLY TO DAMPEN SIGNS OF ANTI-AMERICANISM WHEN THESE HAD APPEARED IN MOGADISCIO ON FEBRUARY 25.

3. DEPTOFF EXPRESSED REGRET AT MOYNIHAN LANGUAGE WHICH NOT ONLY EXCEEDED BOUNDS OF ACCEPTABLE DIPLOMATIC SPEECH, BUT WHICH POSITED A PAST RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOMALIA AND USSR WHICH WE DO NOT BELIEVE TO HAVE EXISTED. HOWEVER, MOYNIHAN WAS NOT A DIPLOMAT OR SPOKESMAN OF USG; HE WAS US SENATOR AND FREE EXPRESSION OF HIS VIEWS WAS SOMETHING WHICH DEPARTMENT COULD NEITHER CONTROL
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NOR SOMETHING FOR WHICH DEPARTMENT WAS RESPONSIBLE. IT WAS, THEREFORE, NOT DEPT. PRACTICE TO ISSUE STATEMENTS OF DISASSOCIATION IN SUCH CASES. IN ADDITION, DEPTOFF EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT USG STATEMENT ON SUBJECT WOULD ONLY DRAW PRESS ATTENTION TO MATTER WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE, HE HOPED, RECEIVE LITTLE PRESS PLAY. HE RENEWED EXPRESSION OF OUR DESIRE FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS, EXPRESSED SYMPATHY FOR PROBLEM OF EXPLAINING NATURE OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SENATOR MOYNIHAN AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO GSDR, AND PROMISED TO ALERT EMBASSY MOGADISCIO TO PROBLEM IN CASE QUESTION RAISED THERE.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 02 mar 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PINT, EAID, SO, US, UR, CU, (MOYNIHAN, DANIEL)
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